A Chest Compression Device with Electro-Stimulation

This application is a continuation of U.S. Application 09/829,859, filed April 9, 2001, now abandoned, which is a continuation of U.S. Application 09/100,840, filed June 19, 1998, now U.S. Patent 6,213,960.

Field of the Inventions

This invention relates to the resuscitation of cardiac arrest victims.

Background of the Inventions

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) is a well known and valuable method of first aid. CPR is used to resuscitate people who have suffered from cardiac arrest after heart attack, electric shock, chest injury and many other causes. During cardiac arrest, the heart stops pumping blood, and a person suffering cardiac arrest will soon suffer brain damage from lack of blood supply to the brain. Thus, CPR requires repetitive chest compression to squeeze the heart and the thoracic cavity to pump blood through the body. Very often, the victim is not breathing, and mouth to mouth artificial respiration or a bag valve mask is used to supply air to the lungs while the chest compression pumps blood through the body. The methods of providing oxygenated airflow to the lungs are referred to as ventilation.

It has been widely noted that CPR and chest compression can save cardiac arrest victims, especially when applied immediately after cardiac arrest. Chest compression requires that the person providing chest compression repetitively push down on the